iads

Interactive Authoring and display System

Features and Benefits of IADS

Play
Slideshow

Go to IADS Customer Support & Training

The History Of IADS

IADS is an Army funded project originally developed to eliminate the need for paper technical manuals in the field through creating and distributing technical manuals in electronic format.

IADS eliminates paper storage problems, adds interactive functionality, increases speed and accuracy for updates, reduces print costs, and enhances search and retrieval times. Combine all this with its intuitive user interface and IADS is a winner in the Electronic Documentation arena.

Basic Features of IADS:

- *Utilizes SGML or XML* – to manipulate text and graphics
- *Search Methods* – Text and Task based searching
- *Navigation Tools* –TOC pane, Frame, and extended History
- *Commenting Tools* – private/public notes and bookmarks
- *Alerts* – Embedded (with or without acknowledgement)
- *Graphic Display* – Inline, embedded, watermark, and split screen
- *Tables* – CALS and Content Model tables (formatted by a style sheet)
- *Input forms* – drop-down boxes, checkboxes, radio-buttons & text boxes
- *RPSTL* – Search capabilities allow the user to search the RPSTL database

Application Possibilities

The possibilities are endless. Any paper documentation has the potential of being a hypertext document.

Just some of the potential uses:

- Standard Operating Procedures and Handbooks
- Specifications and Standards
- Interactive Electronic Technical Manuals
- Technical Data Viewer
- Computer-Based Training
- Administrative Publications
- Briefings and Presentations

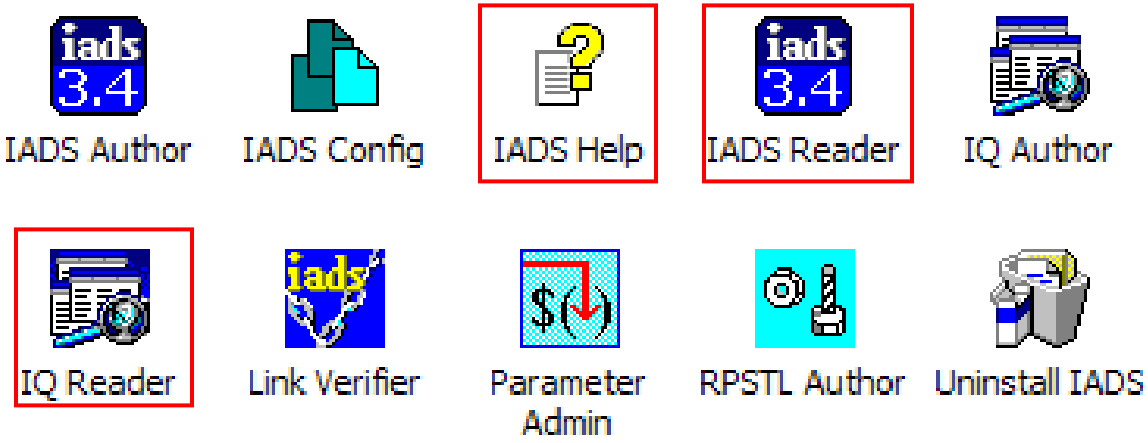
Benefits of using IADS:

- SGML/XML based
- DTD independent
- Renders native SGML/XML from any ASCII editor
- Non-proprietary software
- Training and technical support available (annual fee required)
- Interactivity with user through Input Forms and Query Boxes
- Text Auto-Numbering
- Windows-based Help
- Bilingual Menu Option (German/English)
- RPSTL (Repair Parts and Special Tools List)
- Supports vector images, including SVG and CGM
- Modular Application - use IADS components as needed
- Capabilities/Services are determined by the needs of the user

IADS Program Group

To obtain a copy of the IADS software, visit the IADS website and download the complete application suite:
https://iads.redstone.army.mil

The IADS Program Suite contains all of the programs needed to author an IETM and read an IETM. The picture below displays all the programs that are installed during a full program installation, with the main IADS Reader Programs Highlighted.



IADS Reader and Author

IADS Reader - software required to display the final document to the end-user.

IADS Author - software includes all the functionality of the Reader program; in addition, and all the tools necessary to aid in hypertext document creation.

System Requirements

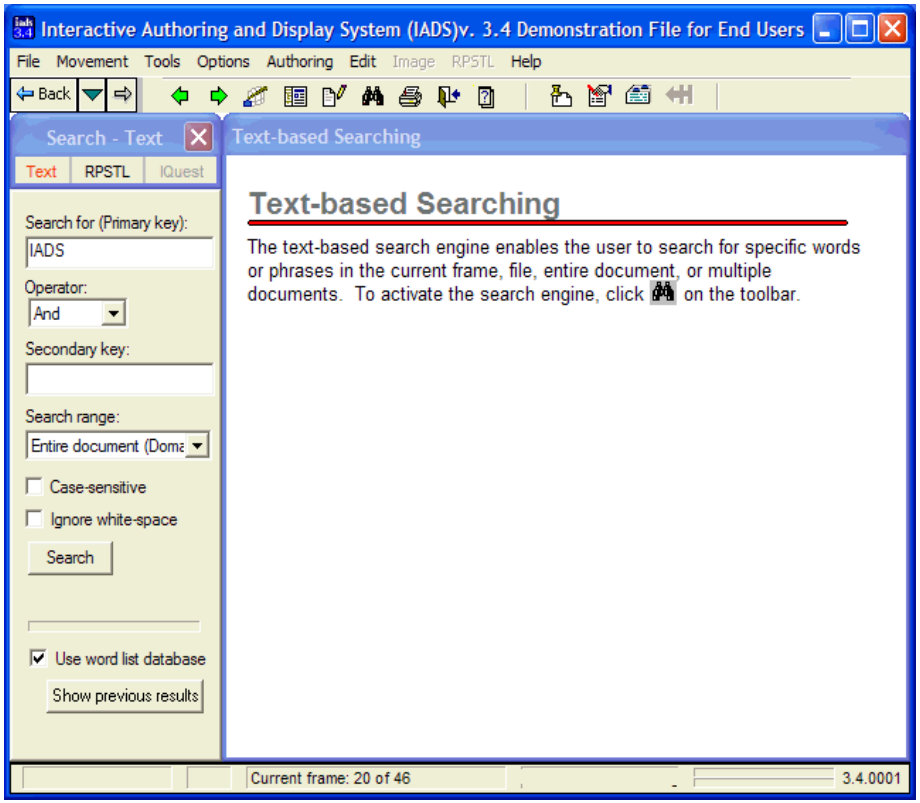
IADS requires Windows 2000 operating system or later.
The amount of disk space required for the IADS installation is approximately 45MB.

Searching Methods

Multiple Search Methods Available:

- Text-based
- Task-based search (IQuest)
- RPSTL

The **Text-based** search engine enables the user to search for specific words or phrases in the current frame, file, entire technical manual (TM), or multiple TMs on a CD.

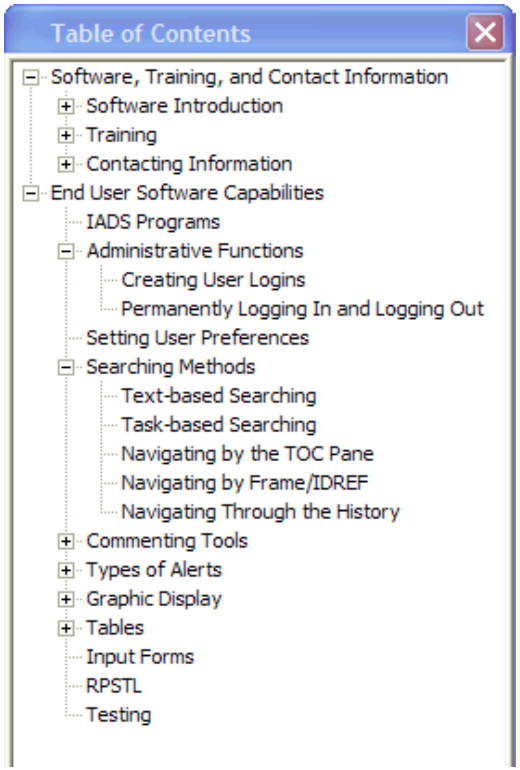

Interactive Authoring and Display System (IADS)v. 3.4 Demonstration File for End Users
File Movement Tools Options Authoring Edit Image RPSTL Help
Back
Search - Text
Text RPSTL IQuest
Search for (Primary key):
IADS
Operator:
And
Secondary key:
Search range:
Entire document (Doma
Case-sensitive
Ignore white-space
Search
Use word list database
Show previous results
Text-based Searching
Text-based Searching
The text-based search engine enables the user to search for specific words or phrases in the current frame, file, entire document, or multiple documents. To activate the search engine, click on the toolbar.
Current frame: 20 of 46
3.4.0001

Searching Methods, cont..

The **IQuest** search engine enables task-based searching with in the IETM, including RPSTL, rather than searching for specific content visible on the screen. When an IETM has been designed by the document author to associate pertinent information to a task identifier the user may then search for that material by task. A search range can be defined to narrow the results down by identifying by WUC/LCN, Part Number, Ref Des, Description, NSN, Link ID and Task code.

Table of Contents (TOC)

The TOC Pane displays the table of contents for a document in the navigation pane on the left side of the screen. The document author must provide the necessary data in order for the IETM to utilize this feature.



Commenting Tools

Tools are available for creating private or public notes, setting bookmarks, and saving user responses within an IETM.

Bookmarks

- A specific point of interest may be marked for later reference by an electronic bookmark. The user has the capability to set, remove, and go to bookmarks from the Bookmarks dialog. To create a bookmark on a frame, click the icon from the toolbar.

User Public and Private Notes

- IADS provides a utility for creating public (available to all users) and private (only available to the creator) notes that are associated with a given frame. To associate a note with a frame, click the icon on the toolbar.

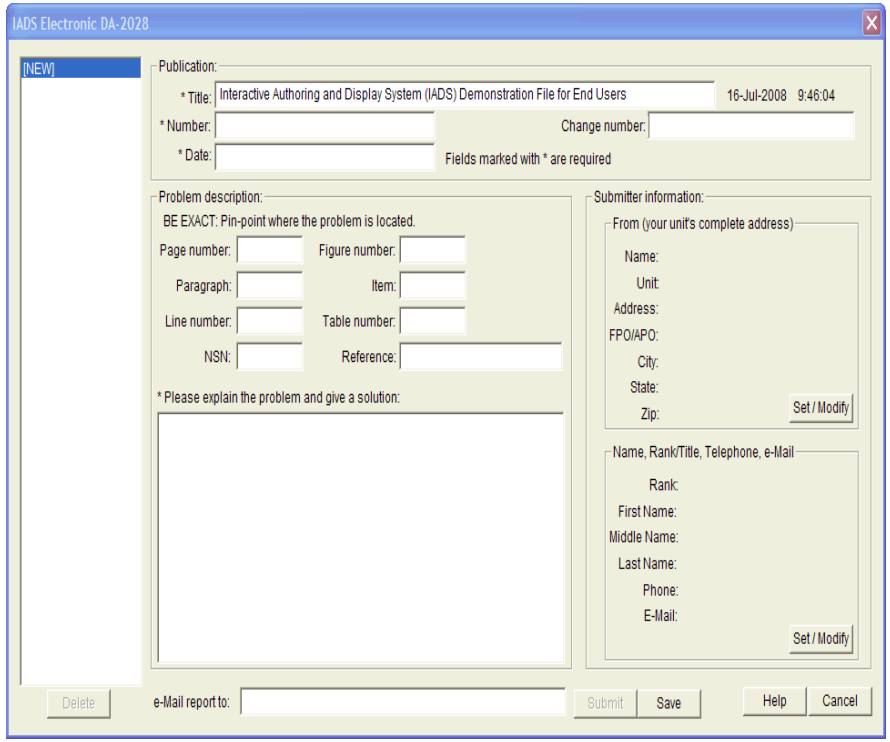
Warnings, Cautions & Notes

Alert capability for warnings, cautions, and notes is available as Pop-Up or Embedded style. Document authors can utilize one of these two methods for material that requires acknowledgment by

Warning
This is an example of an embedded alert requiring acknowledgment before navigating further in the IETM.
OK
Caution
This is an example of an embedded alert requiring acknowledgment before navigating further in the IETM.
OK
Note
• This is an example of an embedded alert that doesn't require acknowledgment before navigating further in the IETM.
• This is a second bullet within an embedded alert.

Electronic DA-2028

This tool is designed for reporting errors in the technical manual. It contains fields for capturing all the necessary 2028 information and can be emailed directly to receiving personnel for processing. This must be set up by the document author to work properly.



Graphics

Graphics may display as inline within the flow of text, embedded within a frame of text, as a watermark, or in a split screen.

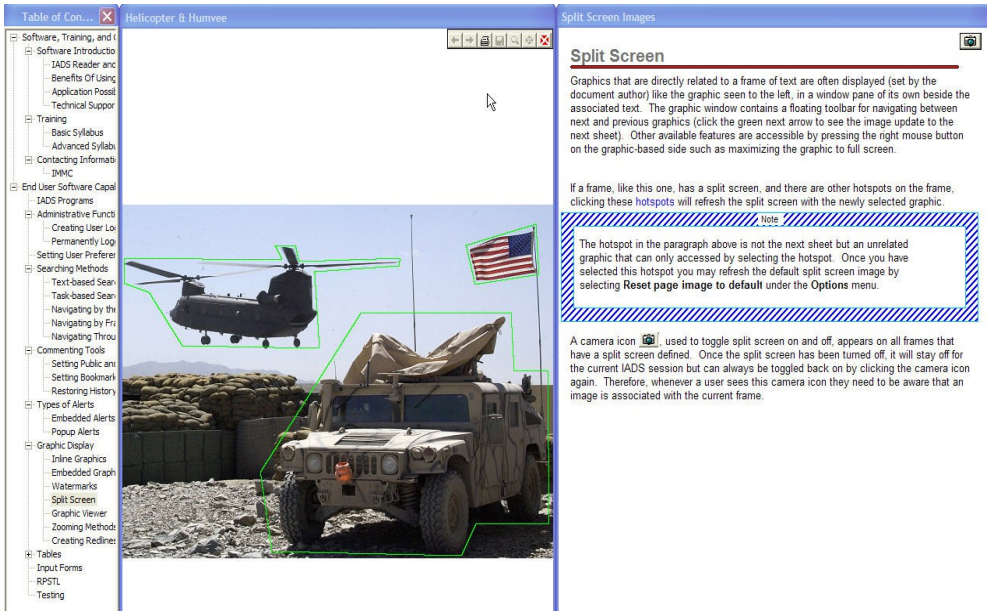


Table of Con...
Helicopter & Humvee
Split Screen Images
Split Screen
Graphics that are directly related to a frame of text are often displayed (set by the document author) like the graphic seen to the left, in a window pane of its own beside the associated text. The graphic window contains a floating toolbar for navigating between next and previous graphics (click the green next arrow to see the image update to the next sheet). Other available features are accessible by pressing the right mouse button on the graphic-based side such as maximizing the graphic to full screen.
If a frame, like this one, has a split screen, and there are other hotspots on the frame, clicking these hotspots will refresh the split screen with the newly selected graphic.
Note
The hotspot in the paragraph above is not the next sheet but an unrelated graphic that can only accessed by selecting the hotspot. Once you have selected this hotspot you may refresh the default split screen image by selecting Reset page image to default under the Options menu.
A camera icon, used to toggle split screen on and off, appears on all frames that have a split screen defined. Once the split screen has been turned off, it will stay off for the current IADS session but can always be toggled back on by clicking the camera icon again. Therefore, whenever a user sees this camera icon they need to be aware that an image is associated with the current frame.

Graphic Capabilities:

- Zooming/panning
- Creating redlines
- Rotating
- Hotspots
- Highlighting specific points of interest

Tables

Support for Tables Includes:

- CALS (Continuous Acquisition and Life-Cycle Support) tables

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE CHECKS AND SERVICES FOR CAMCORDER

Item No.	Interval	Item to Be Checked or Serviced	Procedure	Equipment Not Ready/Available If:
B - Before, D - During, A - After, W - Weekly, Q - Quarterly, AN - Annually				
1	B, D	Camcorder	Check for visible damage.	Camcorder unable to record.
2	B, A, W, Q	Camcorder	Clean lens.	
			Check for view screen hinge tightness.	Unable to mount to tripod.
			Clean body.	
			Check for presence and serviceability of covers.	

- DTD-specific tags (content model), formatted by the stylesheet

UNABLE TO COMMUNICATE: **RESET**

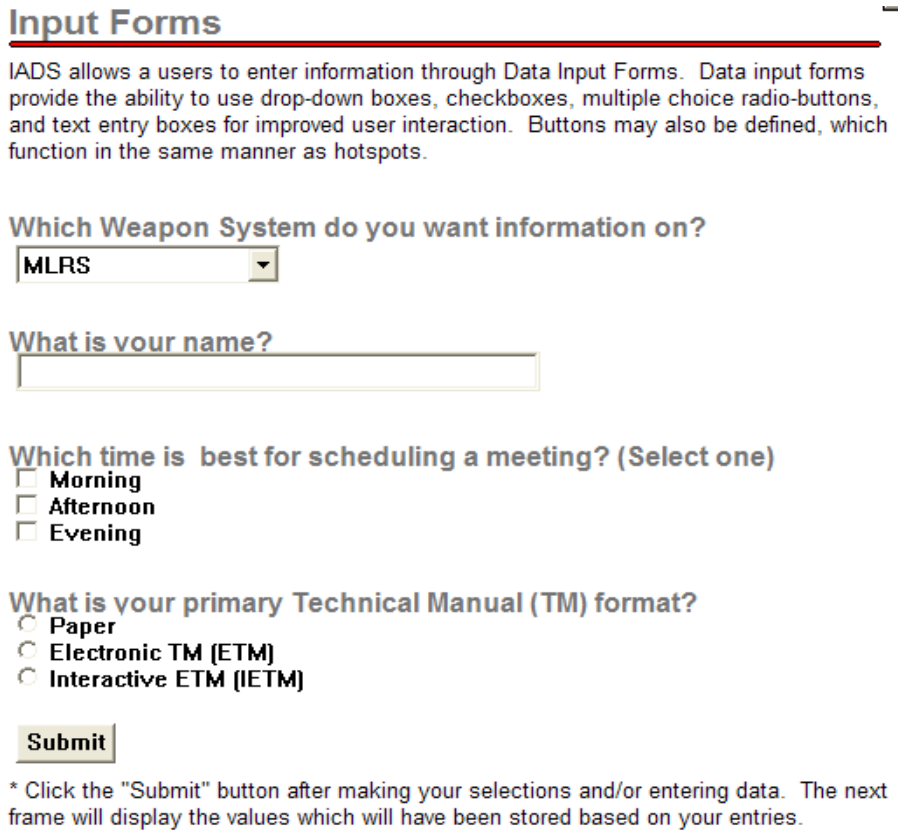
Instructions	Indication	Answer	Response
Ensure that communications cord is plugged into communication unit and that unit is working. Ensure helmet connector on left rear side of helmet is secured.	Are you able to hear?	YES / NO	Please make a selection.

Input Forms

Data input forms provide user interaction and recording of responses.

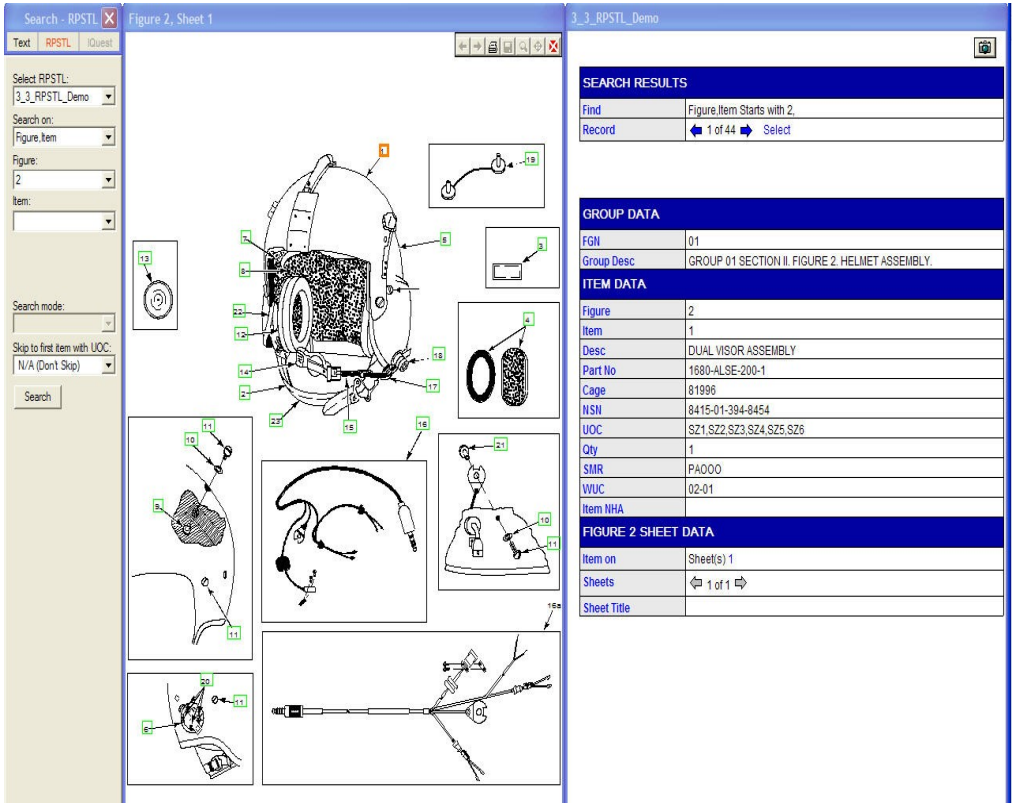
Available Input Types:

- Drop-down boxes
- Checkboxes
- Radio-buttons
- Text entry boxes


Input Forms
IADS allows a users to enter information through Data Input Forms. Data input forms provide the ability to use drop-down boxes, checkboxes, multiple choice radio-buttons, and text entry boxes for improved user interaction. Buttons may also be defined, which function in the same manner as hotspots.
Which Weapon System do you want information on?
MLRS
What is your name?
Which time is best for scheduling a meeting? (Select one)
Morning
Afternoon
Evening
What is your primary Technical Manual (TM) format?
Paper
Electronic TM (ETM)
Interactive ETM (IETM)
Submit
* Click the "Submit" button after making your selections and/or entering data. The next frame will display the values which will have been stored based on your entries.

RPSTL

IADS contains a Repair Parts and Special Tools List (RPSTL) program that links parts data to graphic callouts. This increases the efficiency of parts identification and cross referencing and enables online parts ordering.



RPSTL, cont…

- Search capabilities allow the user to search the RPSTL database.
- The user can search for any Part Number, NSN, SMR code, Figure/Item or Functional Group.
- A list of parts maybe exported for ordering purposes reducing the risk for human error.
- Extended History list allows the user to track previous searches in the RPSTL.
- Print capabilities allow the user to print Figure Item List, RPSTL Item Report, & RPSTL Search Results.

Testing

IADS supports intrusive testing utilizing the SPORT/MSD-ICE testing equipment and the ISAS DM224 PCMCIA interface card. Processing instructions can be added to an IADS document to initiate, perform, and evaluate testing using this equipment.

SPORT-ICE is a tool used for automated vehicle testing. A DM224 card is required in addition to the SPORT-ICE hardware ICE box. The ICE box contains all other hardware, including the relay switching network and the internal power supply.

Technical Support and Training

There is no cost for the software executables since they are government off the shelf (GOTS).

If you would like technical support and training, a Customer Support Agreement (CSA) is required. The CSA is on a per site, per year basis and entitles you to hotline support, assistance with setting up/improving your authoring project(s) and training.

For customers with a CSA, Basic and Advanced training courses are held monthly at AMCOM, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, with the Basic course beginning in January and alternating monthly with the Advanced course for the remaining of the year. On-site training is available for an additional fee and is a cost-effective alternative for customers who need training for multiple personnel or require specialized training.

For more information on training schedules, customer support information or questions about the IADS software, please contact us!

Website: **https://iads.redstone.army.mil**
Team IADS: 256-876-4237